

**REMARKS**

Claims 5-7 and 12-14 are pending and have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting a telephonic interview with their undersigned representative on February 17, 2011. During the interview, claim 1 and the outstanding rejections were discussed. Applicants' representative argued that the applied art did not disclose or suggest a controller that sets the size of the block of data to be compressed to a size of a divisional unit. The Examiner tentatively agreed. Applicants' representative also proposed an amendment to clarify the claimed attribute discriminator. The Examiner tentatively agreed that the amendment distinguished over the applied art. Applicants have amended the claims and presented arguments in this response in line with the discussion during the interview.

Claims 5-7 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) on Sato (US 6,982,811). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 is directed to a data processing apparatus that includes an attribute discriminator configured to discriminate whether an attribute of inputted job data is monochrome or color. The apparatus also includes a controller that sets a size of the block of the data to be compressed by a compressor to a size of the page unit when discriminated that the attribute of the data is monochrome and sets the size of the block of the data to be compressed by the compressor to a size of a divisional unit obtained by dividing the size of the page unit by plural numbers when discriminated that the attribute of the data is color.

Sato does not disclose or suggest a data processing apparatus including an attribute discriminator, as claimed. The Examiner contends that Sato's step S15004 in Fig. 15 corresponds to this feature. But step S15004 only relates to acquiring an attribute and does not involve discriminating the acquired attribute, much less discriminating whether the attribute is monochrome or color, as claimed. Accordingly, Sato fails to disclose or suggest this feature.

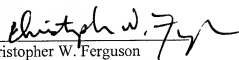
In addition, Sato does not disclose or suggest a data processing apparatus including a controller, as claimed. The Examiner contends that Sato discloses the controller because an S-TIFF file format can be selected for a monochrome image and a PDF file format can be selected for a color image. Applicants respectfully disagree. First, as discussed during the interview, there is no indication in Sato that the size of the block of the data to be compressed by a compressor is set to a size of a divisional unit obtained by dividing the size of a page unit by plural numbers, as claimed. Rather, Sato's Fig. 5 merely indicates that the PDF file includes multiple images. There is no disclosure that these images correspond to a divisional unit obtained by dividing the size of a page unit by plural numbers. Second, Sato does not disclose or suggest setting the size of the block of the data to be compressed based on a discrimination result of an attribute discriminator, as claimed. As discussed above, Sato does not disclose or suggest actually discriminating whether an attribute is monochrome or color. Consequently, Sato does not disclose or suggest setting the size of the block of the data to be compressed based on a discrimination result. Accordingly, Sato fails to disclose or suggest this feature.

In view of the above, Sato does not disclose or suggest the invention defined by claim 5. For similar reasons, Sato also does not disclose or suggest the invention defined by independent claims 6 and 7, as these claims merely change what the claimed attribute of the data represents. Claims 5-7 are thus allowable. The other claims are allowable for similar reasons. Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding rejection and issue a Notice of Allowance. If it is determined that a telephone conference might expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **325772034800**.

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Respectfully submitted,

By   
Christopher W. Ferguson  
Registration No.: 59,809  
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP  
1650 Tysons Blvd, Suite 400  
McLean, Virginia 22102  
(703) 760-7389